

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 033638
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:JWTTWINAM:CEJ
APPROVED BY NEA:SSOBER
S/S:MR. SEBASTIAN
NEA/IRN:CMASS

-----150214Z 041751 /63

O P 150140Z FEB 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 033638

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SA

SUBJECT: ALLEGED IRANIAN THREAT AGAINST UAE

REFS: (A) JIDDA 1187, (B) TEHRAN 1430, (C) ABU DHABI 457

1. BEGIN FYI: WE HAVE NO INDEPENDENT EVIDENCE OF A SPECIFIC IRANIAN THREAT TO UAE. WE ARE INCLINED TO AGREE WITH CONJECTURE ABU DHABI REFTEL THAT, AS A RESULT OF RECENT UAE-SAUDI DISCUSSIONS GENERAL UAE NERVOUSNESS ABOUT IRANIAN WAR OF NERVES TO INFLUENCE OPEC PRICE DECISION HAS BECOME TRANSLATED IN SAUDI THINKING INTO A MORE SPECIFIC THREAT TO UAE. IN OUR OWN ASSESSMENT WE FIND IT DIFFICULT TO PERCEIVE OF ANY DIRECT ACTION IRAN COULD TAKE AT THIS TIME AGAINST UAE WHICH WOULD NOT BE SELF-DEFEATING TO OVER-ALL IRANIAN POLICY OBJECTIVES INCLUDING OPEC SOLIDARITY.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 033638

WE ASSUME THAT BOTH SAUDI ARABIA AND UAE LEADERS ADEQUATELY UNDERSTAND THAT BECAUSE OF THE TYPES OF CRUDE OIL INVOLVED AND RELATIVE SURPLUS PRODUCTION CAPABILITIES, IT IS SAUDI, NOT UAE PRODUCTION DECISIONS WHICH WILL HAVE SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON DEMAND FOR IRANIAN CRUDE. UHILE WE ARE PROPERLY CONCERNED WITH THE GRAVITY SAUDI LEADERSHIP APPARENTLY ATTACHES TO IRANIAN EFFORTS TO MAKE UAE UNCOMFORTABLE WITH

ITS PRESENT PRO-SAUDI ORIENTATION IN OPEC, WE BELIEVE THAT
USG SHOULD NOT BECOME DIRECTLY INVOLVED
IN

THIS AND OTHER ASPECTS OF INTRA-OPEC INFIGHTING AS THE
GULF PRODUCERS SEEK TO RECONCILE THEIR OIL POLICY WITH
THEIR BROADER NEED FOR POLITICAL COOPERATION. WE WISH TO
AVOID RAISING THIS ISSUE DIRECTLY WITH EITHER IRAN OR
UAE. END FYI.

2. IF PRINCE SAUD ASKS AGAIN FOR US ASSESSMENT OF
ALLEGED IRANIAN THREAT AGAINST UAE, YOU SHOULD RESPOND AS
FOLLOWS: IN RESPONSE TO SAUDI REQUEST WE HAVE MADE
THOROUGH REVIEW OF INFORMATION INDEPENDENTLY AVAILABLE TO
US AND ARE AWARE OF NO SPECIFIC IRANIAN THREAT TO UAE.
WE ARE, OF COURSE, AWARE OF SHAH'S JANUARY 29 FRENCH TELE-
VISION INTERVIEW IN WHICH HE STATED THAT "OVERPRODUCTION"
BY SAUDI ARABIA OR UAE "IS AN ACT OF AGGRESSION" AGAINST
IRAN. OBVIOUSLY THERE ARE CERTAIN PRESENT POLITICAL
TENSIONS AMONG GULF OIL PRODUCING COUNTRIES AS THE RESULT
OF THE RECENT OPEC DECISIONS BUT WE FIND IT HARD TO CON-
CEIVE THAT IT WOULD BE IN IRAN'S INTEREST TO MAKE ANY KIND
OF SPECIFIC THREAT AGAINST THE UAE OR ANY OTHE GULF
COUNTRY. WE WOULD BE INTERESTED TO KNOW IF SAG HAD
A DIFFERENT ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION.
VANCE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM PRODUCTION, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, ECONOMIC WARFARE, THREATS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE033638
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JJWTWINAM:CEJ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770052-0947
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770240/aaaabjem.tel
Line Count: 88
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 94374bc6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 JIDDA 1187, 77 TEHRAN 1430, 77 ABU DHABI 457
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3317815
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ALLEGED IRANIAN THREAT AGAINST UAE
TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, TC, IR, SA, OPEC
To: JIDDA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/94374bc6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009